

CHARTER OF THE MICRONATIONAL CARTOGRAPHY SOCIETY

PART A: COUNCIL OF THE MICRONATIONAL CARTOGRAPHY SOCIETY

1. Appointment of the Administrator-General

- (1) Where the Administrator-General resigns from office, he shall appoint another person to be Administrator-General.
- (2) Where the Administrator-General resigns or otherwise leaves office without appointing a successor to be Administrator-General, the Council shall select a person to be Administrator-General.
- (3) A person can only be appointed or selected to be Administrator-General if they are a Council Member.
- (4) The Administrator-General is the leader of the Council.

2. Appointment of Council Members

- (1) There shall be four Senior Council Members.
- (2) Where a vacancy in the membership of the Council arises (other than a vacancy in the office of Administrator-General):
 - (a) the person who, until the appearance of the vacancy, held office as the Junior Council Member shall become a Senior Council Member, and
 - (b) the Council shall select a new person to be the Junior Council Member.
- (3) The selection of a Junior Council Member shall be subject to a vote of confidence of the members of the Micronational Cartography Society ("the Society").

3. Council membership

- (1) The affairs of the Micronational Cartography Society ("the Society") shall be administered by the Council of the Society.
- (2) The Council of the Society ("the Council") shall consist of every Council Member.
- (3) A person is a Council Member if they hold office as:
 - (a) Administrator-General,
 - (b) Senior Council Member, or
 - (c) Junior Council Member.

4. Operation of the Council

- (1) The business of the Council shall be conducted:
 - (a) in a publically viewable forum, and
 - (b) by majority vote of the Council Members.
- (2) Subject to section 5, a person who is for the time being appointed as a Junior Council Member shall not have the ability to vote on any matter.

(3) A Council Member (of whatever description) shall not vote on any claim, modification or removal where he holds citizenship of the member state or states to which that claim, modification or removal relates.

(4) A Council Member should, when voting on a claim request, consider whether the overall development of the nation in question merits the addition of the area being claimed, taking into particular account:

- (a) activity,
- (b) cultural development,
- (c) internal government,
- (d) international collaboration,
- (f) history and
- (g) use of current claims.

(5) In subsection (1)(b), “majority vote” means a majority of votes cast (being more than one-half of such votes), but that subsection shall be subject to any other provision of this Charter which provides for a different means of qualifying a vote.

5. The Junior Council Member

(1) The Junior Council Member shall have the right to vote where any of the conditions in subsection (2) are satisfied.

(2) The conditions are that:

- (a) the Administrator-General is unable to vote, or
- (b) a Senior Council Member is unable to vote.

(3) A person is unable to vote within the meaning of subsection (2) where he is:

- (a) absent (so as to satisfy either of the conditions in section 6(2)), or
- (b) disqualified from voting by virtue of section 4(3) (disqualification due to citizenship).

(4) Subsection (1) is subject to:

- (a) section 4(3), and
- (b) any other restriction on the ability of a Council Member to vote.

6. Absence of Council Members

(1) Subsections (4) and (5) apply if either of the conditions in subsection (2) are satisfied.

(2) The conditions are that the Council Member has not:

- (a) voted on any matter within a period of 14 days, or
- (b) given notice, by way of posting in the thread entitled “The LOA Thread” in the “Notices” subforum, of his intended absence.

(3) Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this section, subsections (4) and (5) shall not apply if the Council Member in question gives notice, by way of posting in the thread entitled “Register thread” in the “Council” subforum, of his continued activity.

(4) Where this subsection applies, another Council Member shall, by all reasonable endeavours, attempt to contact the Council Member in question and alert him to that fact.

7. Dismissal of Council Members

(1) Where section 6(4) applies, unless the Council Member in question:

- (a) votes on any matter,
- (b) gives notice, by way of posting in the thread entitled "The LOA Thread" in the "Notices" subforum, of his intended absence, or
- (c) gives notice, by way of posting in the thread entitled "Register thread" in the "Council" subforum, of his continued activity;

within a period of seven days, he shall be dismissed from his office.

8. Lack of confidence

- (1) A Council Member shall cease to hold office if the members of the Society find, by a three-quarters majority, that they no longer have confidence in him.

PART B: MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY

9. Qualification

- (1) A state may, at the discretion of the Council, become a member of the Society if they can prove to the satisfaction of the Council that they:
 - (a) are independent of every other member, and
 - (b) have established a documented online existence for a period exceeding 30 days prior to their initial application.
- (2) States which do not meet the criteria in subsection (1)(b) may reserve land at the Council's discretion until they reach the age stated in the aforementioned criteria.

10. Restrictions

- (1) Without prejudice to any custom or tradition relating to the relationship between the Apollo Foundation and the Society, the Apollo Foundation shall not be considered to be a member of the Society for the purposes of claims, modifications or removals.
- (2) Permitted that the Council is satisfied that a nation meets the criteria described in section 9.(1), there are not further restrictions on a right to claim for:
 - (a) one-man nations, or
 - (b) no more than three states simultaneously run by one person.
- (3) Where this subsection applies, in respect of:
 - (a) an application for membership by any of those states, or
 - (b) a claim request made by any of those states who are members;the Council shall exercise its functions in a way so as to prevent the abuse of the Society, or of claims made by any member, and so as to preserve the integrity of the maps produced by the Society.

11. Obligations

- (1) Members agree to represent themselves with proper etiquette, grammar and respect, as would be expected in any normal government office.

(2) Members agree to provide honest and reliable information, statistics and any other requested data to the Society. The Society shall respect the confidentiality of such information.

12. Resignation

(1) A member of the Society shall have the right at any time to terminate their membership of the Society.

PART C: CLAIMS

13. Land

(1) Subject to subsection (2), a member of the Society shall not have the right to claim any part of the map other than land.

(2) A member shall have the right to:

- (a) make small claims on ice where that ice is in reasonable proximity to land claimed by them, and
- (b) make claims on islands too small to be displayed on the map, that is to say of a size smaller than one half of a pixel.

14. Marking of the map

(1) A member shall not have the right to claim to mark any city or place on any land not claimed by them.

(2) A member shall not have the right to claim to mark any city, place, territory or subdivision, or any other wording if in the opinion of the Council such a mark would be offensive.

(3) A claim:

- (a) shall only consist of symbols approved for use in the key to the map,
- (b) shall only have one city marked as a capital city,
- (c) in the case of text, shall be:
 - (i) in Times New Roman,
 - (ii) in 8-point (in MS Paint), and
 - (iii) unblurred,
- (d) in the case of symbols and city names shall be red, or where that colour would be unreadable, yellow,
- (e) in the case of a regional name, shall be black,
- (f) in the case of a border, shall be:
 - (i) black, and
 - (ii) one pixel thick, and
- (g) in the case of a regional border, shall be dotted (that is to say, every other pixel shall be the base colour of the claim).

(4) Where a claim is removed, any mark of a city made in respect of that claim shall remain so marked, but the symbol used shall in every case be that of "Ruins".

(5) In this section:

- (a) "red" means `rgb(255,000,000)/#FF0000`,
- (b) "yellow" means `rgb(255,255,000)/#FFFF00`,

- (c) “black” means rgb(000,000,000)/#000000, and
- (d) “city” includes a military base.

15. Submission of claim requests

- (1) A claim request shall use a form approved for that purpose by the Council.
- (2) A claim request shall include an image, of a standard consistent with the rest of the map, depicting the claim.
- (3) A new member may request that a Council Member:
 - (a) organises their initial claim for them, and
 - (b) constructs a claim map for them;so as long as they clearly indicate where they would like the land to be placed, and provide several city names.

16. Power of the Council to determine claims

- (1) The Council shall have the power to:
 - (a) refuse or reject a claim request where the standard of the submitted map is not consistent with the rest of the map,
 - (b) refuse or reject a claim request where too many such claim requests are made in rapid succession,
 - (c) re-assess or relocate a claim or claim request where it is broadly spread-out across the map,
 - (d) alter or amend a claim or claim request where:
 - (i) the borders of the claim are more than one pixel thick, or
 - (ii) any text is unreadable by virtue of its colour, and
 - (e) approve claim requests made in respect of members with only one citizen,
- (2) The power to refuse or reject a claim under subsection (1)(b) shall only be exercisable where the member in question has made more than one claim request in a period of thirty days.
- (3) The power to re-assess or relocate a claim under subsection (1)(c) shall only be exercisable where it is necessary to do so:
 - (a) in the interests of geographical realism, or
 - (b) for cartographical purposes, in maintaining consolidated and streamlined claims.
- (4) The power to approve claim requests under subsection (1)(e) shall only be exercisable on the proviso that that member is starting out and expects to gain more citizens, and is not exercisable in relation to an inactive member.
- (5) The Council shall not be obliged to uphold any claims made by any member whatsoever, regardless of any past affiliations with the Society.
- (6) The powers afforded to the Council under this section are in addition to and not in derogation from any other powers exercisable by the Council by right.

17. Removal of claims

- (1) Where, in respect of the forums of a member, a period of three months elapses in which an average of less than one post per two days is made, the Council shall have the power to reduce the area of the claim of that member.

(2) Where:

(a) the Council has previously had the power to reduce the area of a claim of a member under subsection (1), and

(b) in the month immediately following that time, in respect of the forums of that member an average of less than one post per day is made;

the Council shall have the power to terminate the membership of that member.

(3) The Council shall have the power under subsection (2) to terminate the membership of a member regardless of whether they have, under subsection (1), reduced the area of the claim of that member.

(4) In addition to subsection (2), where, in respect to the forums of a member, a period of three months elapses in which no posts are made, the Council shall have the power to terminate the membership of that member.

(5) Subject to subsection (6), where a claim is:

(a) reduced by the Council under the provisions of subsection (1), or

(a) removed by the Council as a consequence of the termination of the membership of a member under the provisions of subsections (2) or (4);

the area in respect of which the claim was made shall not have a claim made against it for a period of one month, commencing on the day on which the claim is reduced or removed (as the case may be).

(6) Notwithstanding any reduction or removal imposed by virtue of the preceding provisions of this section, during the one month period set out in subsection (5), the member (or former member, as the case may be) by whom the area was formerly claimed shall have the right to make a new claim request in respect of that area.

PART D: COPYRIGHT AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

18. Copyright of maps

(1) Under the law of the United States of America, the original copyright in every Map is held by Ryan Caruso, Scott Alexander, and Erik Metzler.

(2) The original authors release the copyright held in respect of every Map subject to the following provisions of this section.

(3) Every member of the Society shall, whilst they remain such a member, have the right and power to use, reproduce and alter in any way every Map.

(4) Every reproduction of a whole Map (being more than three-quarters of an original Map) shall state the name of every person who has made a substantial contribution to the development and maintenance of that Map.

(5) Subject to subsection (6), a Map shall not be reproduced by or in connection with a for-profit organisation, or for any purpose connected with a for-profit enterprise, endeavour or exhibition.

(6) The Council may, from time to time, authorise (with such terms as they see fit) the use of a Map in such circumstances as would be otherwise prohibited by subsection (5).

(7) In this Part, "Map" means a map (of whatever description) produced:

(a) by the Society,

(b) by a Council Member as part of his duties in the operation of the Society, or

(c) by a member of the Society for the purposes of a claim request or modification; and includes a part or derivative thereof.

(7) This provisions of this section do not apply to any logo or other official publication of the Society.

19. Names and other aesthetics

(1) No claim to copyright can be made in respect of a name or word used on any Map.

(2) Where a member terminates their membership of the Society, the Society retains the full and unrestricted right to leave any:

(a) name,

(b) city, or

(c) other mark (not being a border or shading);

made in respect of that member on any Map on which it is made.

PART E: GENERAL

20. Neutrality

(1) The Council Members and the Society as a whole shall provide an unbiased and equal service to every member.

(2) The Society is an apolitical organisation and is not located in any particular host nation or other context which may compromise the neutrality of the Society.

(3) Members shall not involve the Society in territorial disputes or political disagreements. Where a dispute arises, it is up to the parties involved to solve their issues without involvement of the Society. The Society shall note such disputes and disagreements.

21. Other maps

(1) The Society may, from time to time, produce various maps in addition to the "Claims map" to aid in the common geophysical simulation of members. Where such maps do not mark claims (such Physical, Resource and Ocean maps) the physical layout of the maps shall not be altered or amended.

(2) Where, in respect of a map produced under subsection (1), it is necessary in the interests of the integrity and utility of that map to make any alteration or amendment, the Society may do so with the consent of three-quarters of the Council Members.

22. Previous policies and terms of service

(1) For the avoidance of doubt, all previous charters, policies, regulations and terms of service of the Society are repealed and shall be of no effect.

23. Amendment

(1) An amendment to this Charter shall have effect with the consent of:

(a) over one half of the Council Members, or

(b) over one half of the members of the Society.

(2) In determining the consent of the members of the Society:

- (a) the proposal to amend the Charter shall be posted in the “Claims” subforum,
- (b) the person who makes the proposal shall notify every member of the Society, and
- (c) the consent of a member of the Society shall only be given by a representative of that member duly authorised for the purpose (for which authorisation may be general or specific).

(3) Where the consent of a member of the Society is given for the purposes of this section, it shall only have effect if it is given in accordance with the law and procedures governing that member.

(4) An amendment made under the provisions of this section shall be notified to every member of the Society.

Index of defined expressions

Term	Meaning given by
the Council	section 3(2)
Council Member	section 3(3)
member of the Society	section 9(1)
the Society	section 3(1)